

# BOYS' and GIRLS' PAGE

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## LITTLE EMILY AND THE MANXES

Emily appeared one morning at my door looking a strange looking little under each arm, and showing all her little white pearls of teeth in the dearest little smile you ever saw.

It seems she wished to introduce me to her family. "This one," she said very gravely, holding up one inoffensive kitten, "is Mrs. Tabitha Manx, and this one," showing the other all enigmatically, "is Mr. Napoleon Manx."

"Why how much they look alike!" I said. "How do you tell them apart?"

"That's easy," said Emily. "Aunt Anna told me you could always tell the

house in a barrel we had in the cellar."

The next bulletin was that the little Manx babies had opened their eyes in seven days instead of nine, being precocious infants.

"And, oh, you never would believe it," said Emily, "but they have blue eyes instead of green like their mamma and papa."

But woe is me! One sad stormy morning the kittens were missing from their barrel home.

Then mamma called Emily to the window and there was Mrs. Tabitha Manx picking her way across the grass

and aunts were joyously discussing just what dresses our two travellers would need with them. What fun it was to be sure, this getting ready for the journey! Life was really very bright and happy.

A last, the great day came. The carriage with its best riders as drawn up to the door. The last good-bys were called after them and our friends started on their journey. What a beautiful world it was and what charming pictures one could see out of the carriage windows!

Finally, toward nightfall, the carriage stopped at the gates of a stately mansion, surrounded by beautiful large trees. Immediately the great hospitable doors were thrown wide open and a number of gay young people greeted our travellers. How nice it all was! Here were a number of Zella's old friends, and many new ones which the kind hostess had invited to make her visit more pleasant.

After dinner some of the young guests suggested a dance. But when the music started and the sets were just forming, a most forlorn dirty yellow dog rushed into the room, dodging under the dancers' feet. Of course there was great screaming and excitement, every one beating and cuffing the poor animal, which ran round and round in its fright.

As it approached Zella it looked so pitifully at her out of its pathetic big brown eyes that she hid it behind her skirts, and when no one was looking carried it up to her room, feeding it and giving it a nice cool drink of water. To her surprise the poor little doggy spoke, thanking her.

"How does it happen you can speak?" asked she.

"By your kindness to me," he said, "you have broken one part of the horrible enchantment which has bound me for the past year. Only twelve months ago I was Prince Oswald, living on one of my beautiful estates near here. But my nearest relative, who is a wicked magician, cast a spell over me, changing me into the miserable beast you see before you, and by right of my disappearance taking full charge of my property."

"It was only by the merest chance this evening I was able to make my escape. So I ran out of the grounds without any real plan, as I despaired of ever being able to regain my own form. The mystic law was so binding. It decreed that only by the kindness of a young girl who would take pity on me and protect me from blows could I ever regain my speech and so make my troubles known. The magician, however, has caused me to be a most repulsive looking animal, a ward off this very happening. But they could not change my eyes, for they are the windows of my soul."

"What shall we do?" cried Zella, just then she thought of the fairy's gift, and quickly explaining to the dog she took out the little cap and put it on her head. In a few minutes the little fairy stood in their midst. The dog immediately told his story and asked the little queen's advice.

"Who is this magician?" asked the fairy.

"My Uncle Eincourt," replied the dog. "What, not Baron von Eincourt, the brother of my dearest friend? Why, then, you must be Prince Oswald, her only son!"

"The same," said the dog with a sob in his voice.

"Oh, this is dreadful!" exclaimed the good little fairy. "How sad your mother would be if she were still alive. But I know of Baron von Eincourt and the ring he wears containing three drops of a liquid which will cause any one enchanted to return to his natural shape. Now we must plan how to get hold of at least one drop, which will be sufficient to change you, my friend, into your right form."

So they put their heads together and the upshot of it was that the next morning Zella went for a walk near Eincourt's castle. As good luck would have it he had just been for his morning ride, not having as yet missed the dog. There he stood by the castle gates, the reins around his arm, idly hitting some leaves with his whip. He was a handsome man, but evil looking, though he tried to appear so pleasant, as he called out in a laughing tone:

"Where are you going, my pretty maid?"

"I am going home to the house where I am visiting," said our young friend.

"May I go with you, my pretty maid?" laughed he, adding seriously, "I don't think it is quite wise for you to walk alone in these woods. I know your hostess, and feel sure she will thank me for seeing you home."

So Zella allowed him to accompany her, which was just what the fairy wished. On the way Zella admired his ring, and in a spirit of playfulness asked him to try it on. In taking it in her hands she dropped it and it fell from the little fairy, who quickly picked it up and ran to the dog's hiding place. There she poured one drop on his head and Oswald regained his own beautiful form. Then she hurried back, dropping the ring in the grass just where the Baron would see it. He spied it immediately and slipped it back on his finger with a sigh of relief.

Meantime Prince Oswald hurried home and his servants were rejoiced to see him. When his subjects heard of his cruel treatment by his uncle they had the Baron put him in jail. Afterward he was banished from the country.

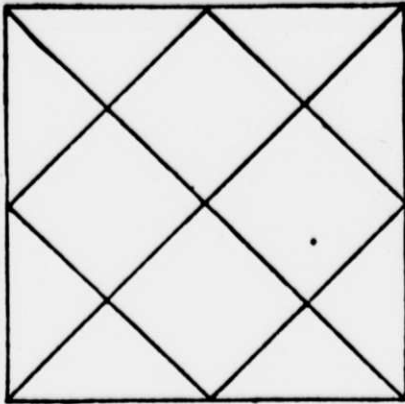
The next day the Prince went to call on Zella's hostess and was formally introduced to Zella and her mother. After that they spent many happy days together, sitting in some pretty woodland glade, accompanied by the fairy, who told them quaint stories of fairy lore, or when they tired of these Zella would play on her lute and sing the beautiful love songs of long ago.

When after many pleasant days Prince Oswald asked her to be his wife she was very happy, for she truly loved him. Her mother too was pleased. So they all joyfully returned home to arrange a pretty wedding.

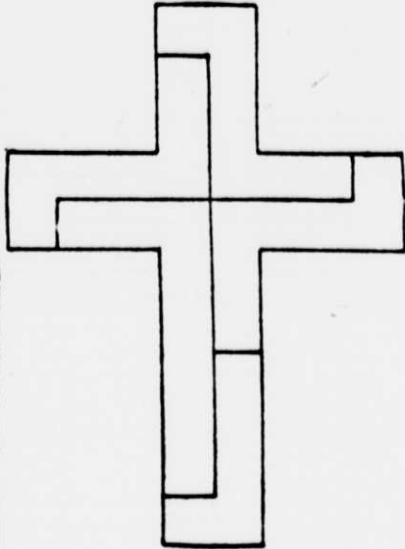
Of course the queen of the fairies was invited to the nuptials, and she brought as a gift a little gold box containing a white powder, which sprinkled on the doorstep of their new home would forever prevent disaster from coming in. The first thing they did after being married and arriving at their own castle was to use the fairy's gift in the way she told them. So you see they could not help but be happy ever afterward.

## PAPER CUTTING PUZZLES.

The arrangement of the twelve pieces, four of them squares and eight of them triangles, so as to form a perfect square usually bothers young people who try it for the first time, because they start with the idea that the larger square should be in the same way as the smaller ones. Instead of this, the solution is to stand the smaller ones on their corners and then fill out the edges, like this:

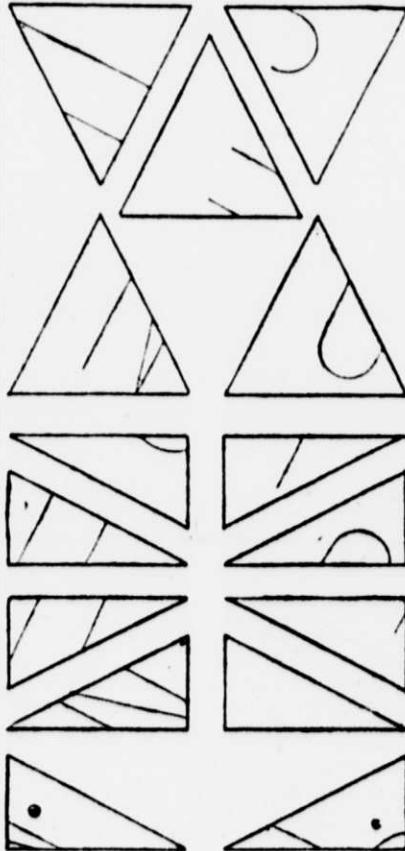


The formation of the cross is a much more difficult puzzle, because of the manner in which the two larger pieces must be fitted into the design in order to make the upright part longer than the arms. Here is the solution:



It is supposed to be more difficult to form a regular figure with an odd number of pieces than with an even number, because it always looks as if there was one piece too many. But here is a little puzzle which shows that such is not the case, and that an odd number of pieces may be so put together as to form a figure with an even number of sides, such as a perfect square.

Here are five pieces of one shape and ten of another, making the odd number of fifteen in all:



Cut these out carefully with a pair of scissors and see if you can arrange them so that they shall form a perfect square. If you get them in the proper order you will know it without being told.

## SAMMY AMONG THE TOY HORSES.

1. TO HORSE FAIR TOWN.

1. "Bill-and-Jack," said Sammy, suddenly turning to his rocking horse one morning when he was alone in the play room, "how is it that you've never taken me to that part of Toy Land where the rocking horses come from?"

The old horse rocked steadily for a minute without speaking. Finally, when Sammy had repeated his question, Bill-and-Jack said, "Well, Sammy, the truth is that there's been some trouble lately in Horse Fair Town between the wooden horses and the skin covered horses, the newer kinds, you know. The wooden horses have been constantly reminded that they were back numbers and have been asked to leave the place. I have been there several times lately to help my wooden friends, and to-day they've sent for me again. The wooden horses are determined to make one last stand and then—"

"Do you mean there's a chance of a fight?" Sammy danced up and down excitedly. "Wouldn't I like to see it!"

"I'm afraid so," answered the old horse sadly. "And if the wooden horses are beaten they will be driven out of Toy Land altogether."

"Why, that would never do!" cried Sammy, pausing in his prancing about the room. "What would the children do without wooden horses? Why, of course, the wooden horses have just got to stay. Cheer up, Bill-and-Jack! Skin covered horses may be more re-

realistic, but give me my good old purple and green Bill-and-Jack. And plenty of boys I know would say the same."

He threw his arms impulsively about the old horse's neck and Bill-and-Jack sniffed his thanks for the little boy's words. "You are a great comfort, Sammy," he said.

"Now, see here, old fellow," went on the boy. "Take me along to-day and I shouldn't a bit wonder if I might help you out. Remember how I helped the tin soldiers win their fight against the paper ones?"

"That's so, Sammy. Well, come along then."

But Sammy did not mount his horse at once. He had a scheme in his head which he did not want to tell Bill-and-Jack. He hunted around the room, overturning chairs and tables until he found what he was after, a little instrument which he thrust into his pocket. Then he climbed into the red saddle, seized the reins, and the rocking horse rose in the air, sailed through the window as usual, and soared up into the sky along the cloud path to Toy Land.

Sammy, sitting comfortably in the saddle, was thinking hard of the problem to be met when he arrived.

"So you horses have a real city of your own?" he said.

"Yes, a fine one. Each horse that is head of a household has his own private stable, with a stall for each of the family. The most important horses have handsome loose boxes fitted up with every modern appliance."

"What do you eat?" "Oats, hay?" "Bill-and-Jack gave a whinnying laugh. "Sawdust. That's part of our trouble just now. The skin horses have carried off all the available supply and the wooden horses are being starved out."

"Regularly 'cornering the market,' eh?" said Sammy thoughtfully. "I think I've a notion that I can help you out in that too."

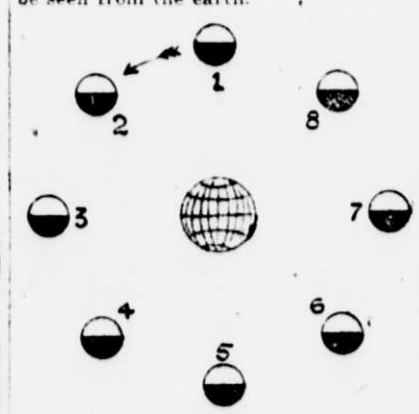
## ASTRONOMY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

While every one knows that the moon does not always look the same and many persons have a general idea of why, there are very few who could tell you if they saw the moon in a picture whether it was waxing or waning; that is whether it was approaching the full moon or past it. In a famous picture of two lovers sitting under a tree in the moonlight the time must have been about two hours before sunrise.

The moon borrows its light from the sun, but as we do not always see the entire part that is in sunlight the lighted part we do see assumes different shapes, which we call phases. Very few persons know the correct names for these phases, although they think they do.

The moon is always round, but we are in the habit of speaking of the part that the light shines on as if there were no other. It is only when the moon is new that we can sometimes see the dark part of it because of the light reflected to it from the earth, which is called earth shine. At other times you may prove that the moon is round if you have a telescope and watching stars disappear as the dark part of the moon covers them up.

If we take the various positions of the moon with regard to the sun and the earth we shall find that if the rays of the sun come always from the same direction, such as the top of this page, the side of the moon that is toward the sun will always be lighted up, but only in one position can all this lighted part be seen from the earth.



A person standing on the earth and looking at the moon when it is in position No. 1, directly in line with the sun, would not see anything but earth shine, and one would have to know just where to look and have a very powerful telescope to see that.

Now the moon always moves in the opposite direction to the hand of a clock when it shifts from one phase to another, remember that. So its next position would be No. 2, and a person on the earth would be able to see the sun shining on the right hand edge, giving it the appearance of a slender crescent.

## NEW CRESCENT

The proper name for this phase is the new crescent moon, because the absolutely new moon cannot be seen. As the moon gets further round, to position No. 3, we can see half its surface in the sunlight, and many people call this the half moon, but the proper name for it is the first quarter, because it is only a quarter of the way round.

Now the moon continues its journey it arrives presently at No. 6 and it is again a gibbous moon, about three-quarters of it being in sunlight. This is called the gibbous moon after full, to distinguish it from No. 4.

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Which you are not likely to see very often unless you are up very late. This might be called a half moon, like No. 3, but the right name for it is the third quarter, because it is now three-quarters of the way round.

The next position we come to is No. 7, which you are not likely to see very often unless you are up very late. This might be called a half moon, like No. 3, but the right name for it is the third quarter, because it is now three-quarters of the way round.

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## MRS. McCLUCK AND THE DUCK

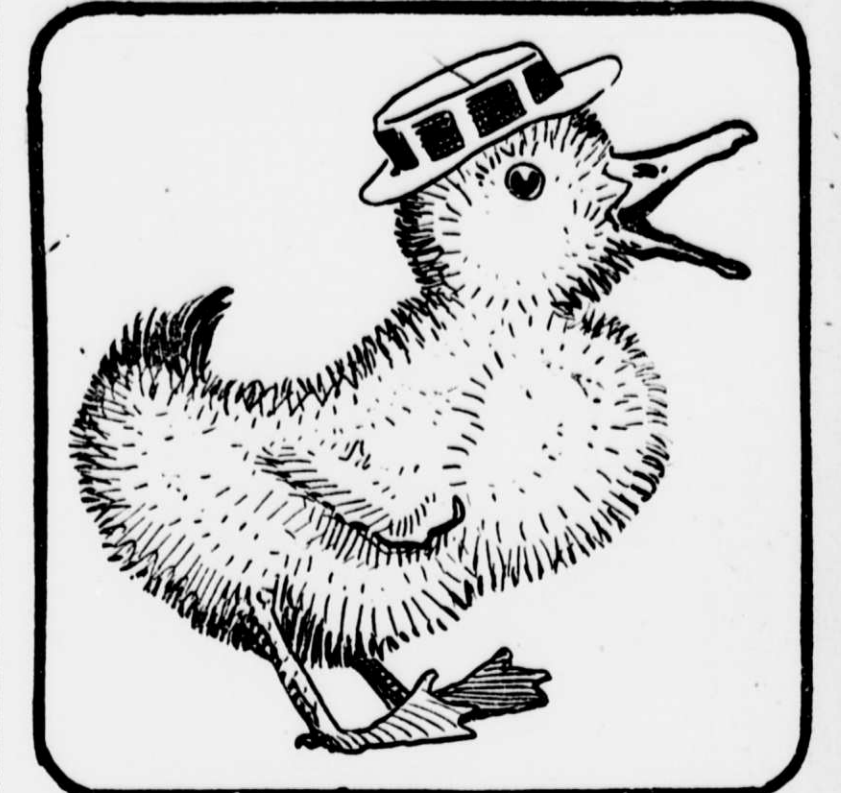
"Oh, what a cunning little darling!" is the first thing you say, isn't it, when you see a wee-wee duckling?

That, as a rule, is not exactly the right thing to say, because most of such diminutive creatures are a stupid, ungainly lot whose only object in life seems to be to tumble into the first pot of water they come across.

However, if you were ever to see Danny the duckling on one of your rambles the expression with which we have opened our story would be the correct

like to do it, but one day when he was exceedingly trying she just took him to the river's bank and threw him in.

When Danny came out of the water the innocent hen, seeing him all dripping, thought that he was in tears, crying for shame, and that he'd be good thereafter. But this only started it. Danny became worse than ever. He took the greatest pains to get himself all covered with mud so that his foster mamma would punish him again by throwing him into the river.



one to use, for Danny was certainly a cunning little fellow. And he was so in every sense—correct or incorrect, according to the schoolmasters, in which the word is used. He was cunning to look at and cunning in his artful, knowing ways.

Danny was a foster child—the hen mother that raised him, old Mrs. McCluck, certainly had her wings and claws full in bringing him up. She was a very good mother, though, and had no trouble at all with her own chicks. Of course she understood their ways and

they too understood her ways. Her chicks without any difficulty soon learned to scratch for a living—Danny simply wouldn't scratch for his living.

Oh, he was always ready and on the spot whenever some one else, the rooster, for instance, turned up a nice fat earthworm. My, but how Mr. Rooster hated it when Danny rushed in and gobbled some choice bits of food that he had found. He'd rather have the hen get it or one of the chicks.

Mrs. McCluck exercised a great deal of patience with Danny. Not that he was a bad child, but he was just hard to understand. She couldn't get him, for example, to stop waddling around in every puddle or poking his nose—bill—mean—in the mud.

At last the hen's patience gave out and she decided on a very severe punishment for the duckling. She didn't

call it the gibbous moon before full to distinguish it from the other gibbous moon, which is No. 6.

When we get to position No. 5 we can see that every part of the moon which is toward us is in sunlight and we call this the full moon.

Now the moon continues its journey it arrives presently at No. 6 and it is again a gibbous moon, about three-quarters of it being in sunlight. This is called the gibbous moon after full, to distinguish it from No. 4.

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The little rascally duckling used to pretend that he didn't like it.

"Be quiet, you bad little one," the hen would say, "or I'll throw you overboard!"

"Two-two, two, two-two-two," he would cry, the poor hen not knowing what it meant, as she had never had a child that talked like that.

Mrs. McCluck, persevering but deduced hen that she was, kept this up until Danny grew too big to carry. Then she turned her motherly attention, as she should have done sooner, to one of her sons who was growing into a fine rooster. She found great pleasure in listening to the youngster trying to crow.

But Danny the duckling, what a disappointment! He was beginning to try to crow; at least, it was a noise, a funny kind of a noise, a disagreeable quack, quack, quack! Imagine making

a barnyard crower out of a harsh voiced duck!

Danny now spent all his time along the waterfront, a bad habit which would probably end, his foster mother thought, by his running away to sea and becoming a sailor.

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